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April last, such a proceeding seems impossible. Already the pangs of thirst begin to be felt. For three days the people residing in the upper portions of this city have had scarcely any water, although the mayor assures me that the full pressure from the opening of all the valves has been applied.

I have written so often and so much on this subject during the fearful experience referred to that I scarcely know what to say. Those who experienced the thirst, inconvenience, annoyance, and anxiety of that trying period look with horror upon the prospect of another such. That the local authorities deserve the highest commendation for the efficient way in which they met and coped with the conditions existing at that time admits of no doubt. That there did not occur an epidemic of fearful character and consequences is due, undoubtedly, in a great measure, to the energy displayed by them under the most adverse circumstances and with limited means and facilities for the cleaning of streets, the removal of garbage, and the enforcement of sanitary regulations.

During the months of January, February, March, and April last this city, with a population of 45,000 souls, was, notwithstanding the most rigid economy enforced by the municipality in the use and distribution of water, without water sufficient for domestic purposes, on account of the lack of a proper water system and aqueduct. So deficient was the present water system and aqueduct to supply the demands of the people that they were compelled to resort to ponds and streams in the vicinity to obtain sufficient for domestic and culinary purposes. During all this time the drought was so intense and the water system so inadequate that there was water in the spigots on an average of only one day in every four to six, and in certain parts of the city only as often as one day in every nine to ten. The scanty supply furnished was of a bad quality, and unquestionably unfit for the purposes for which it was used.

Not only do the people suffer, but thousands of dollars of damage is being done to the city by reason of the failure to construct a water system and aqueduct sufficient to supply the needs of the people, and furnish water to use the sewer system already constructed.

The beautiful asphalt streets are being eaten up and destroyed by the sewerage which runs from the drains of the houses into the gutters, and thereby becomes a menace to the health of the populace; the construction of much needed and desired public improvement, such as electric light and electric railways, is hindered; the prosperity and the development of the city are retarded, and all on account of the present condition of the water supply.

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EGYPT.

Regulations adopted by certain governments with regard to arrivals from Egyptian ports.

[Translated in this Bureau from the *Bulletin Quarantenaire*, published at Alexandria, December 3 and 10, 1903.]

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.—December 2: Arrivals from all Egyptian ports, Alexandria excepted, are subject at Ottoman ports only to medical inspection. The five days' quarantine of pilgrims embarked at Egyp-

tian ports is replaced by medical inspection and disinfection at Abou-Saad in a period of twenty-four hours.

GREECE—Athens.—November 26: Arrivals from Egypt are subject only to medical inspection.

GERMANY.

Report from Berlin—Plague and cholera in various countries.

Consul-General Mason reports, December 19, as follows:

Plague.

Turkey.—On the 3d of December 1 death from plague was registered.

Egypt.—During the period from the 28th of November to the 4th of December there occurred in the whole of Egypt 3 cases of plague and 3 deaths.

British India.—During the week ended November 21 there were registered in the Bombay Presidency 12,634 cases of plague and 9,846 deaths.

Cholera.

Turkey.—According to the weekly bulletin (No. 37) of the 30th of November, regarding cholera in Syria and Mesopotamia, 89 new cases of cholera were registered, and 85 deaths.

Death rate of Berlin and other cities.

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended December 5 was not much higher than in the preceding week, amounting, calculated on the year, to 15.1 per thousand of the population, this being lower than the rate for the corresponding week of last year in which it amounted to 15.5. More than half of the large German towns showed less favorable health conditions than Berlin. The following cities had a considerably higher death rate than that of Berlin, viz: Hamburg, Dresden, Leipzig, Magdeburg, Düsseldorf, Stuttgart, Munich, Nuremberg, Cologne, Halle, Königsberg, Breslau, as well as London, Paris, and Vienna. On the other hand the following towns showed more favorable figures than those of Berlin, namely: Aix la Chapelle, Frankfort-on-the-Main, Bremen, Cassel, Strassburg, Charlottenburg, with 13.6, and Schöneberg, with 10.1 per thousand. The number of deaths among children in the first year of life remained almost unchanged, while there was an increase among the higher age classes. The rate of mortality among infants amounted to 3.7 per year and mille, being about one-half the rate for Munich and lower than the Leipzig and Munich rate. Among the causes of death acute diseases of the respiratory organs were predominant and claimed 72 victims. There was an increase in the number of deaths from influenza, which during the week under discussion claimed 10 victims. On the other hand there was an abatement in acute diseases of the intestines which caused only 28 deaths. There were also registered 65 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, 5 deaths from cholericine, 13 deaths from measles, 9 deaths from diphtheria, 3 deaths from scarlet fever, 2 deaths from typhus, and, finally, 13 persons died by violence.